

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus are provided for dynamically allocated multiple slots within a multi-channel multi-carrier transmission system. The slots may be allocated sequentially or non-sequentially. The data transmission rate for each slot remains constant, while multiple slots may be allocated to a single user service. Each carrier signal contains header data regarding all other carriers associated with the transmission system to identify the allocation of slots to user services. In an alternative embodiment, an encoding and transmitting system is provided for transmitting one or more video and audio encoded signals in a time division multiplexed manner along separate channels having fixed bandwidths. Multiple audio channels may be transmitted simultaneously with a related single video channel, and vice versa. The time division multiplexed audio/video signals may be transmitted over a single carrier or over multiple carriers.

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